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December 23, 2010

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State of California  
Department of Water Resources  
Division of Integrated Regional Water Management  
P.O. Box 942836  
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

Attention: Joe Yun

**Subject: Proposition 84 Planning Grant Round 1 Draft Funding Recommendations**

Dear Mr. Yun:

Contra Costa Water District, on behalf of the East County Water Management Association (ECWMA), the regional water management group for the East Contra Costa County Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) region, supports the Department of Water Resources' (DWR) preliminary Proposition 84 Planning Grant Round 1 funding recommendations. East Contra Costa County has a long history of collaborative regional water management planning, starting with preparation and implementation of an East County Water Management Plan in 1996 and development of a Functional Equivalent IRWM Plan in 2005. Projects to increase water use efficiency and water supply reliability, improve water quality and protect and restore watershed habitat are well underway in the region, bringing the region closer to meeting the goals and objectives set forth in the IRWM Plan. However, more work remains to be done.

Receipt of planning grant funding under Proposition 84 will play a major role in supporting the region in updating its IRWM Plan to a fully-integrated regional water management plan that meets current Plan Standards. The region is also proposing to develop a conceptual model of groundwater use in the Pittsburg Plain Groundwater Basin, conduct a data gap analysis to identify the safe yield of the portion of the Tracy Groundwater Sub-basin underlying the East County Region, and develop a Salt/Nutrient Management Program for the Pittsburg Plain Groundwater Basin.

The member agencies of the ECWMA and other stakeholders in the East Contra Costa County IRWM Plan look forward to DWR finalizing its Planning Grant Round 1 Draft Funding Recommendations. We wish to express our appreciation to DWR for

State of California  
Department of Water Resources  
Division of Integrated Regional Water Management  
Attention: Joe Yun  
December 23, 2010  
Page 2

the time and effort it took to carefully conduct the IRWM planning grant program and evaluate the applications.

Thank you very much for considering our comments.

Sincerely,



Greg Gartrell  
Assistant General Manager

GG/MAV/rlr

cc: ECWMA member agencies